

IN THE DISCLOSURE

On page 3, line 8, the word --of-- is inserted immediately prior to the word "a".

REMARKS

Examiner rejected Applicant's original claims 1-14 under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Spira, Galindo and Nilssen '318 and '252.

Applicant traverses these rejections for the following reasons.

(a) The priority date pertinent to (at least most of) the claims in instant application is 03/01/83; which makes Nilssen '318 and '525 inappropriate as references thereagainst -- especially since Nilssen and Applicant is one and the same person.

(b) Applicant dismissed the proffered affidavits, stating that:

"The affidavits only show that not every artisan will necessarily think of building it after looking at the references and thinking of what they are able".

In addition to being unclear, this statement is non-appropos.

It is well established in case law that, in order to be valid as a ground for obviousness-type rejection, a suggestion provided by a set of applied references must be plain and clear. Certainly, had there in fact been a plain and clear suggestion in the applied references to the effect of combining the teachings of Galindo with those of Spira in such manner as to attain the claimed invention, most any person having ordinary skill in the art would have recognized such plain and clear suggestion. Yet, out of two persons -- each possessing at least ordinary skill in the pertinent art -- neither one recognized any such suggestion. Is that not ample evidence to the effect that such plain and clear suggestion was in fact not present?

(c) In the form of Exhibit C hereto, Applicant herewith provides an Affidavit by an expert in the particular art pertinent hereto: Mr. Dale E. Fiene.

Mr. Fiene's Affidavit is quite self-explanatory; and represents clear and undisputable evidence to the effect that it would not only be unobvious, but actually inappropriate, to modify the teachings of Spira by incorporating therein the teachings of Galindo in such manner as to attain the claimed invention.

In fact, Mr. Fiene's Affidavit completely corroborates Applicant's arguments: both those provided herein as well as those provided by way of Amendment A.



Ole K. Nissen, Pro Se Applicant



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CLAIMS in FWC of Serial No. 07/484,278

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1. An arrangement comprising:
 - a source providing a power line voltage between a first and a second power line terminal;
 - a power track having a first and a second track conductor; the power track being operative to receive and hold a number of track lighting units; each one track lighting unit having a pair of load terminals; which load terminals, when the one track lighting unit has been received and is indeed being held by the power track, make electrical connection with the track conductors; and
 - voltage conditioner means connected in circuit between the power line terminals and the track conductors; the voltage conditioner means being operative to convert the power line voltage provided between the power line terminals to a track voltage provided between the track conductors; there being, through the voltage conditioner means, an electrical conduction path between the first track conductor and one of the power line terminals; the fundamental frequency of the track voltage being substantially higher than that of the power line voltage.
2. The arrangement of ~~claim 1~~ wherein the absolute instantaneous magnitude of the track voltage is substantially equal to that of the power line voltage during a significant part of each half-cycle of the power line voltage.
3. The arrangement of ~~claim 1~~ wherein the first track conductor is, via action occurring within the voltage conditioner means, alternately and periodically switched between the first and the second power line terminal at the frequency of the track voltage.
4. The arrangement of ~~claim 1~~ wherein the first track conductor is, via action taking place within the voltage conditioner means, periodically connected with the first power line terminal; such that, while such connection is taking place, the electrical potential of the first track conductor is substantially the same as that of the first power line terminal.

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5. An arrangement comprising:

a source providing a power line voltage between a first and a second power line terminal;

a power track having a first and a second track conductor; the power track being operative to receive and releaseably hold a number of track lighting units; each one track lighting unit having a pair of load terminals; which load terminals, when said one track lighting unit has been received and is indeed being held by the power track, make electrical connection with the track conductors; and

voltage conditioner means connected in circuit between the power line terminals and the track conductors; the voltage conditioner means being characterized by functioning: (i) repeatedly and periodically to connect for a brief period of time the first track conductor with the first power line terminal, and (ii) in such manner as to provide between the track conductors a track voltage having a fundamental frequency substantially higher than that of the power line voltage.

6. The arrangement of claim 5 wherein the brief period of time has a duration that is approximately equal to half that of the fundamental period of the track voltage.

7. An arrangement comprising:

a source providing a power line voltage between a first and a second power line terminal;

a power track having a first and a second track conductor; the power track being operative to receive and releaseably hold a number of track lighting units; each one track lighting unit having a pair of load terminals; which load terminals, when said one track lighting unit has been received and is indeed being held by the power track, make electrical connection with the track conductors; and

voltage conditioner means connected in circuit between the power line terminals and the track conductors; the voltage conditioner means being characterized by functioning: (i) periodically and alternately to cause electrical connection between the first track conductor and the first and second power line terminals, and (ii) to provide between the track conductors a track voltage having a fundamental frequency substantially higher than that of the power line voltage.

8. An arrangement comprising:

a source providing a power line voltage between a first and a second power line terminal;

a power track having a first and a second track conductor; the power track being operative to receive and releaseably hold a number of track lighting units; each one track lighting unit having a pair of load terminals; which load terminals, when said one track lighting unit has been received and is indeed being held by the power track, make electrical connection with the track conductors; and

voltage conditioner means connected in circuit between the power line terminals and the track conductors; the voltage conditioner means being: (i) operative to provide between the track conductors a track voltage having a fundamental frequency substantially higher than that of the power line voltage, and (ii) characterized by causing the electrical potential of the first track conductor to be substantially equal to that of the first power line terminal during a significant portion of each half-cycle of the track voltage.

9. An arrangement comprising:

power track means having track conductors and track receptacle means; the power track means being mounted on a ceiling and connected in circuit with the power line voltage of an ordinary electric utility power line;

plural track lighting units; each track lighting unit having connection means removably inserted into the track receptacle means, such as to be disconnectably held thereby; each track lighting unit having power input terminals and power output terminals; the power input terminals of each given track lighting unit being connected with the track conductors as long as the connection means of that given track lighting unit is indeed inserted into the track receptacle means; the power output terminals of at least one track lighting unit being connected with a low voltage incandescent lamp requiring for its proper operation to be supplied with a lamp voltage having RMS magnitude substantially lower than that of the power line voltage; and

frequency conversion means connected in circuit between the power line and the incandescent lamp in such manner as to be functional to supply to the low voltage incandescent lamp a voltage having RMS magnitude substantially lower than that of the power line voltage and frequency substantially higher than that of the power line voltage;

whereby the low voltage incandescent lamp is indeed properly powered.

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10. The arrangement of claim 9 wherein the lamp voltage is further characterized by periodically varying in magnitude between substantially zero and a certain peak level; the periodic magnitude variations having a fundamental frequency equal to twice the frequency of the power line voltage.

11. The arrangement of claim 9 wherein, whenever it is indeed being supplied, the lamp voltage has an absolute instantaneous magnitude that varies in proportion with that of the power line voltage.

12. An arrangement characterized by:

(A) comprising:

a power track having a receptacle slot; and
plural lighting units, each disconnectably attached to the power track via the receptacle slot; at least one of the lighting units having an incandescent lamp requiring for its proper operation to be supplied with a lamp voltage having RMS magnitude substantially lower than that of the power line voltage present on an ordinary electric utility power line;

as well as by:

(B) being:

powered from said ordinary electric utility line;

and

operative to supply to the incandescent lamp a voltage of RMS magnitude substantially lower than that of the power line voltage and fundamental frequency substantially higher than that of the power line voltage, thereby to properly power the incandescent lamp.

13. The arrangement of claim 12 wherein the lamp voltage actually supplied to the incandescent lamp has a fundamental frequency higher than about 10 kHz and a magnitude that varies periodically in synchronism as well as in proportion with the instantaneous absolute magnitude of the power line voltage.

14. The arrangement of claim 12 further characterized by comprising frequency-converting means so disposed and operated as to provide a track voltage of frequency substantially higher than that of the power line voltage across a pair of track conductors in the power track.

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15. An arrangement comprising:

a power line providing a power line voltage at a pair of power line terminals; and

power track means having a pair of track conductors connected in circuit with the power line terminals; the power track means having a receptacle slot operative to receive and disconnectably hold a number of track lighting units; at least one track lighting unit being indeed held by the receptacle slot; said at least one track lighting unit having a lamp with a pair of lamp terminals; the lamp terminals being connected in circuit with the track conductors; an AC lamp voltage being provided across the lamp terminals; the AC lamp voltage having a fundamental frequency substantially higher than that of the power line voltage.

16. The arrangement of claim 15 wherein the lamp is an incandescent lamp.

17. The arrangement of claim 16 where the RMS magnitude of the AC lamp voltage is substantially lower than that of the power line voltage.

18. The arrangement of claim 15 wherein a frequency conversion means is interposed between the power line terminals and the track conductors, thereby to provide an AC track voltage between the track conductors; the AC track voltage having a fundamental frequency substantially higher than that of the power line voltage.